

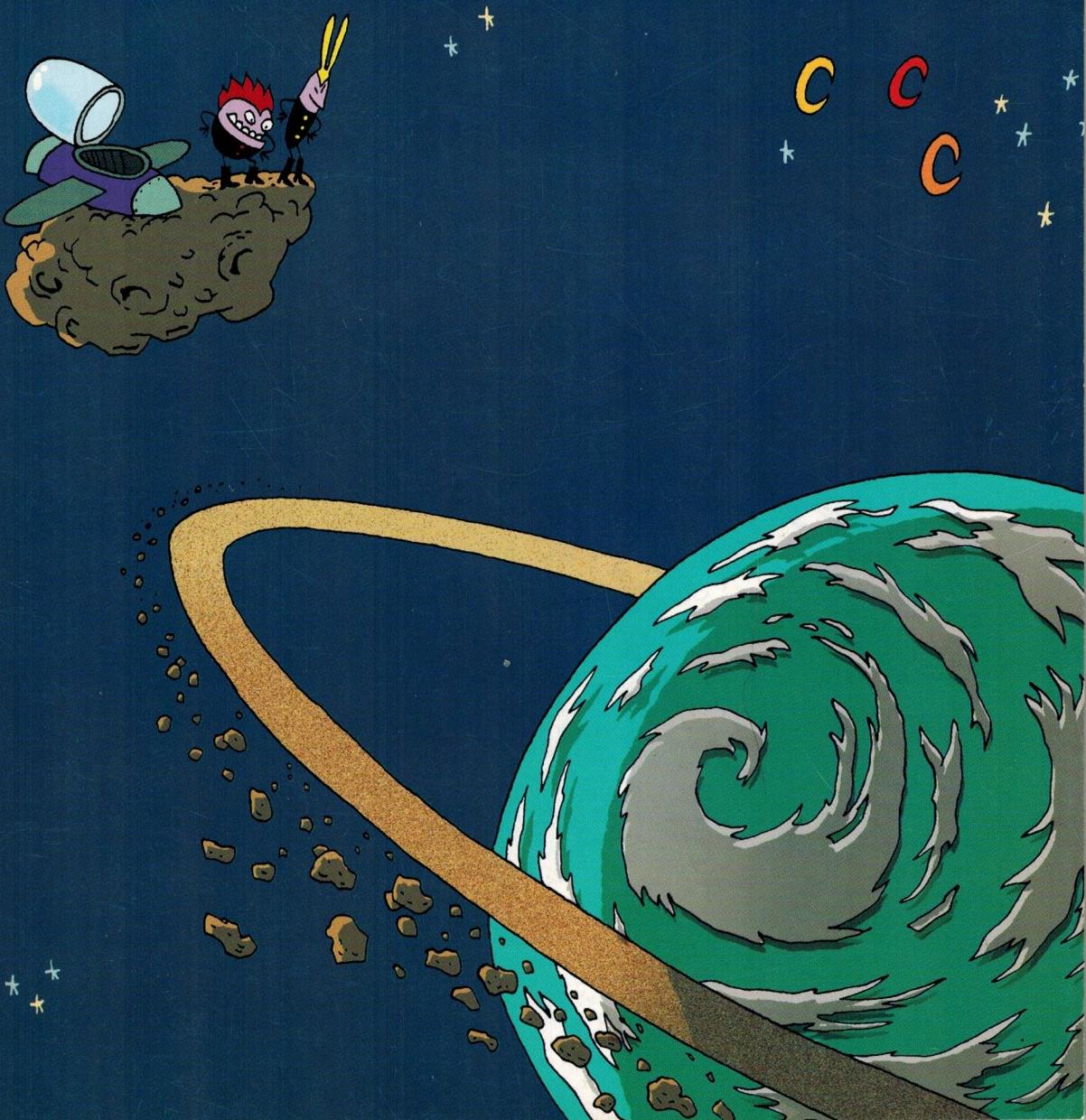
\$ 2.95 U.S.

#3

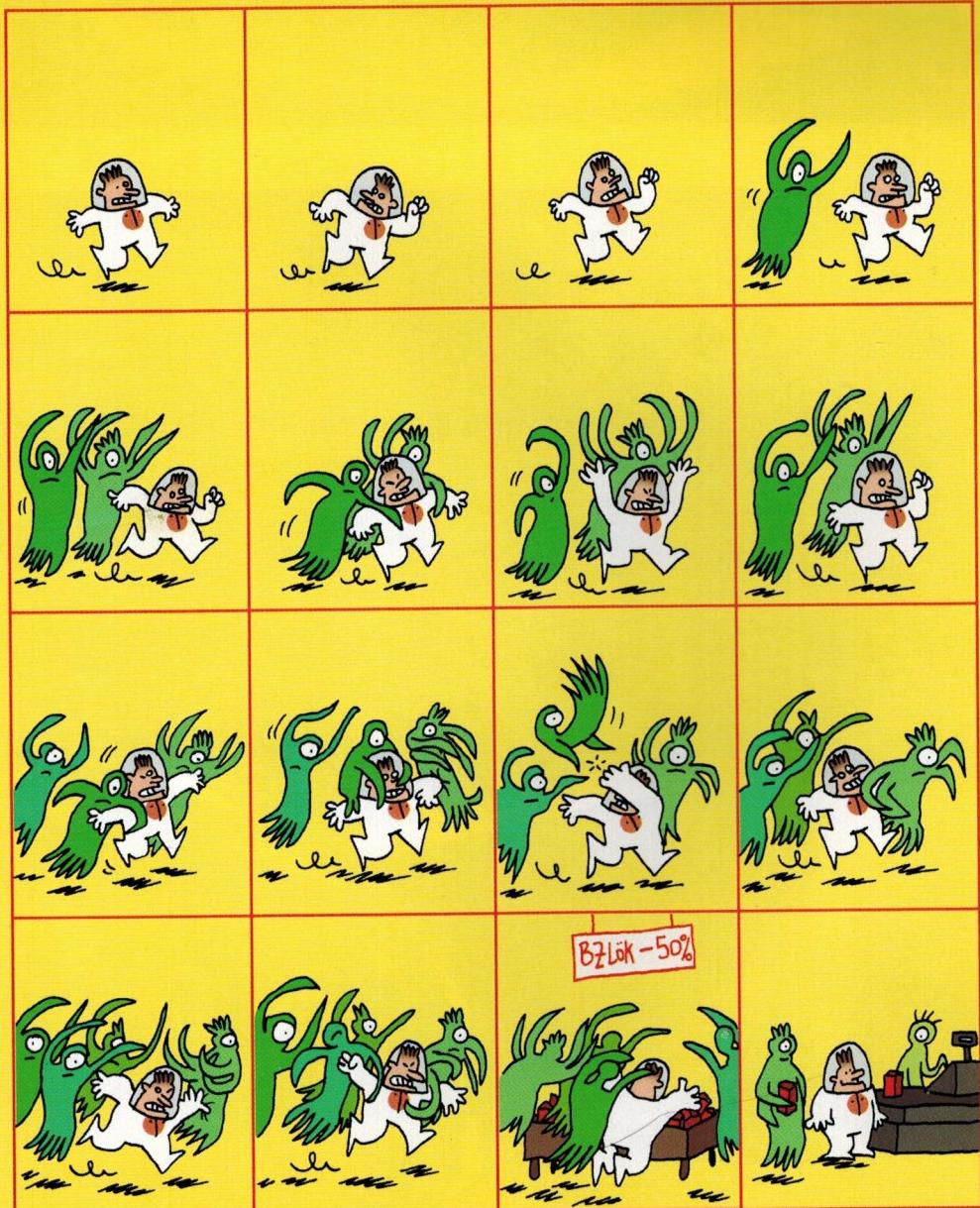
\$ 3.95 CANADA

# the Nimrod

FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS



# the Cosmonaut



Uli S Trondhjem

# THE NIMROD IS WEL(L)!

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Since we didn't get any letters last issue, we figured we'd make up our own questions and answer them. Enjoy!

## I THOUGHT THE NIMROD WAS DEAD? WHAT HAPPENED?

After Lewis Trondheim got nominated for several Eisner awards last year Kim Thompson decided he couldn't live with himself if he deprived the American fans of more of his work. And he's not that easy to live with to begin with.

## DID LEWIS WIN ANY OF THE AWARDS?

No. But it's an honor, yada yada yada.

## WILL I EVER GET TO MEET LEWIS?

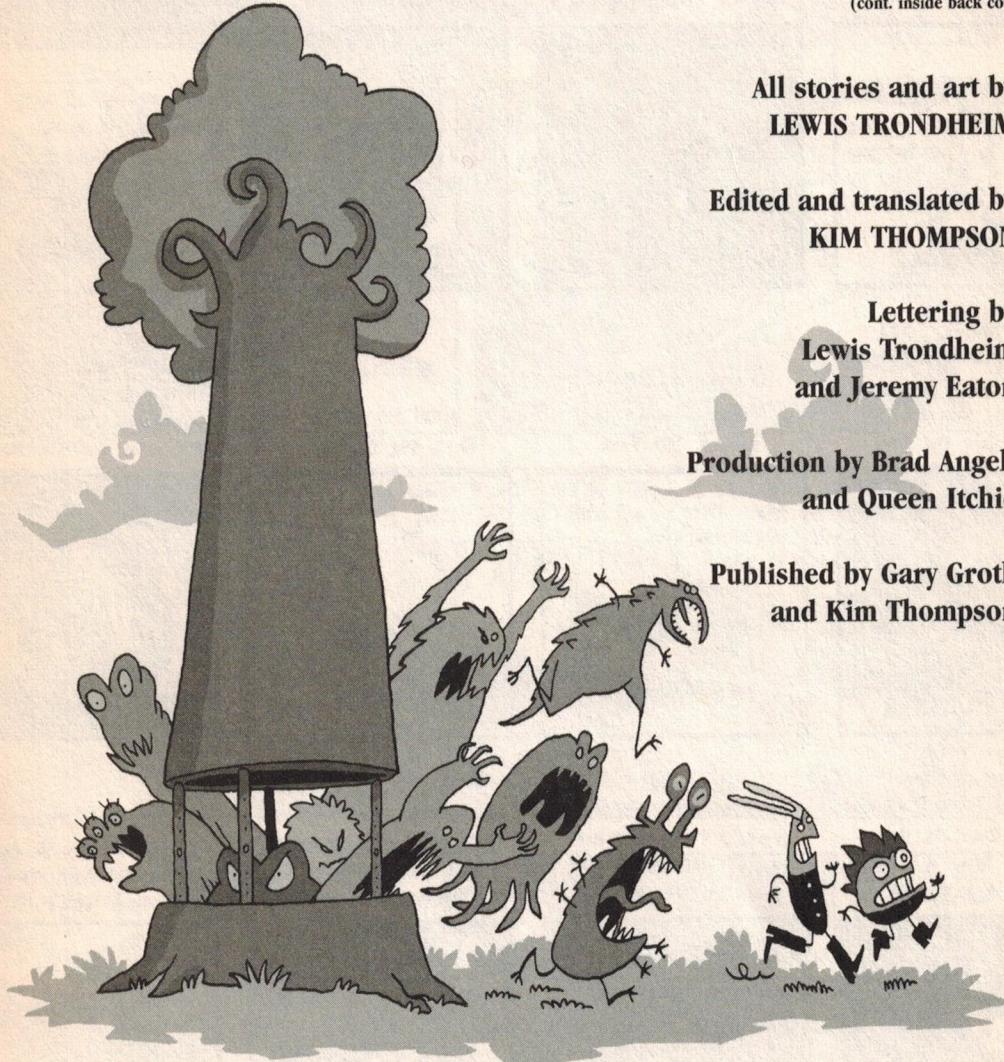
Start making your plans now for attending the Y2K San Diego International Comicon, where Lewis will be one of the International Guests of Honor. Not only will he be signing books and doing sketches, but he'll probably bring a stash of great L'Association minis and other books for you to buy.

He may even go make a fool of himself on a panel if he gets talked into it! (Don't worry, his English is actually quite good.)

## WHAT IF I DON'T GO TO THE SAN DIEGO CON?

It's possible Fantagraphics will arrange for some stops along the way (a few comics shops on the East Coast have expressed interest, and Lewis would like to visit here and there), but nothing is graven in stone yet. Keep your eyes peeled.

(cont. inside back cover)



All stories and art by  
**LEWIS TRONDHEIM**

Edited and translated by  
**KIM THOMPSON**

Lettering by  
Lewis Trondheim  
and Jeremy Eaton

Production by Brad Angell  
and Queen Itchie

Published by Gary Groth  
and Kim Thompson

VICTORIA WANTED TO WRITE A SCIENCE-FICTION STORY.

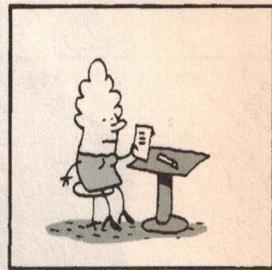
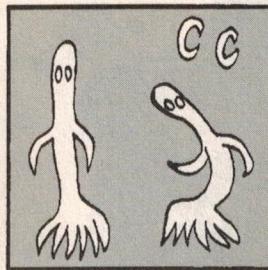
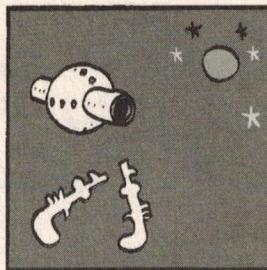
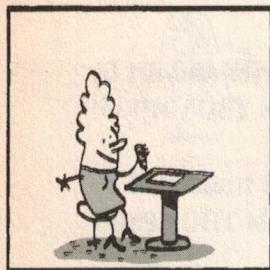


SHE COMPILED A LIST  
OF THE INGREDIENTS SHE  
WOULD USE IN HER STORY.

AN INTERPLANETARY  
VESSEL, A FARAWAY  
PLANET, LASER PISTOLS...

TENTACLED  
MONSTERS, TWO  
MOONS IN THE SKY...

VICTORIA BECAME  
DISMAYED AT HOW  
LACKLUSTER HER  
IMAGINATION WAS.

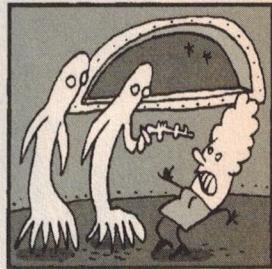
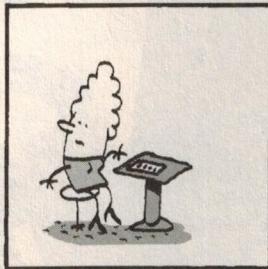
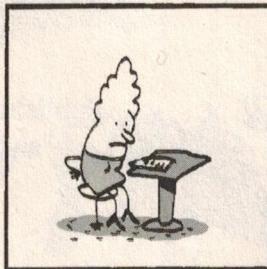
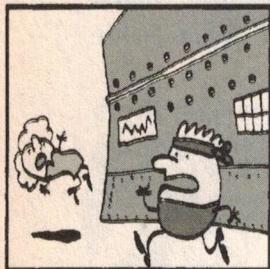


SO SHE ADDED: AN  
OMNIPOTENT COMPUTER,  
A KIDNAPPED WOMAN,  
A SPACE MERCENARY  
WHO SAVED THE DAY.

...IT WAS PATHETIC.  
THERE WASN'T A  
SINGLE SURPRISE.

THEN SOMEONE  
RANG THE DOORBELL.

VICTORIA WAS HUSTLED  
INTO A SPACE SHIP AND  
FOUND HERSELF FACE TO  
FACE WITH TENTACLED MONSTERS.

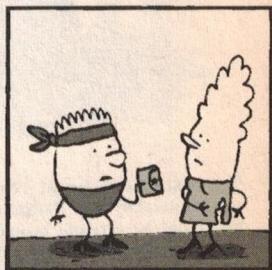
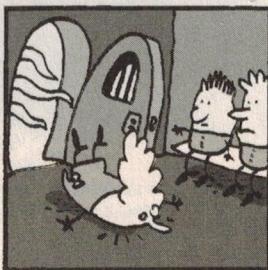
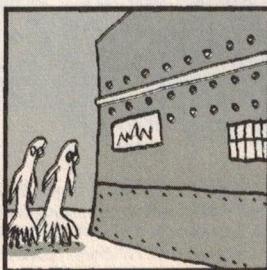
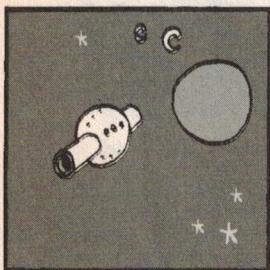


THREATENED BY  
THE LASER PISTOLS, VICTORIA  
WAS SPUNNED TO A  
FARAWAY PLANET WITH  
TWO MOONS IN THE SKY.

A GIANT  
OMNIPOTENT COMPUTER  
FEARED THAT VICTORIA  
MIGHT INADVERTENTLY  
REVEAL THE TRUTH.

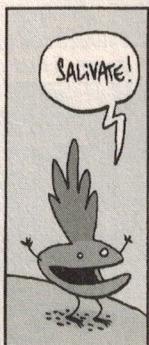
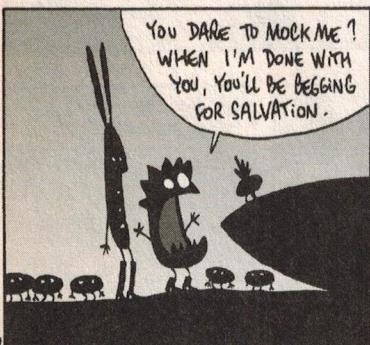
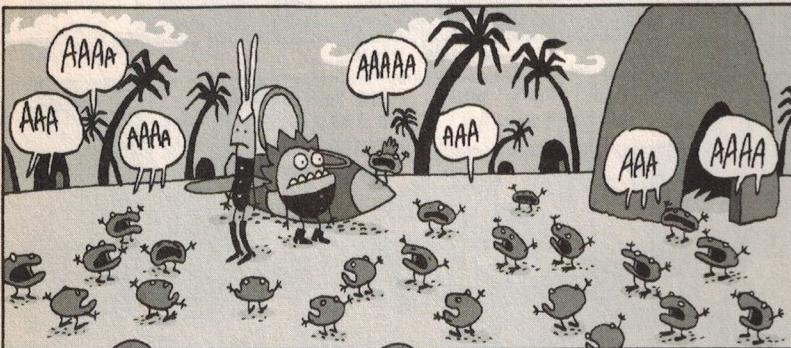
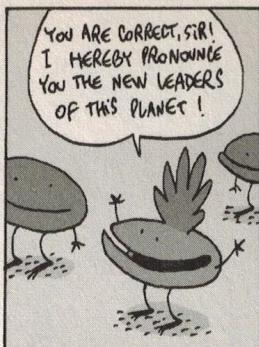
SPACE WAS VIOLENTLY PITCHED  
INTO AN OVERPOPULATED  
PRISON CELL AND TORE  
HER DRESS ON THE WAY IN.

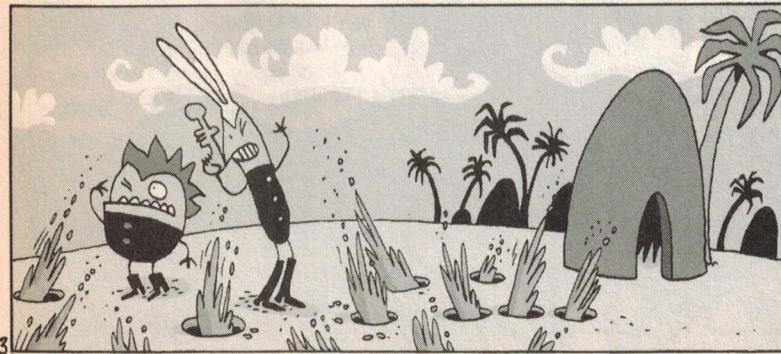
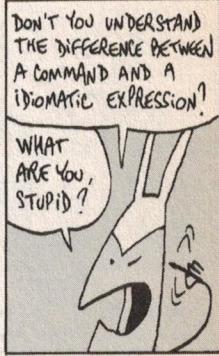
A SPACE MERCENARY  
SAVED THE DAY BECAUSE  
HE HAPPENED TO HAVE HIS  
SEWING KIT WITH HIM.

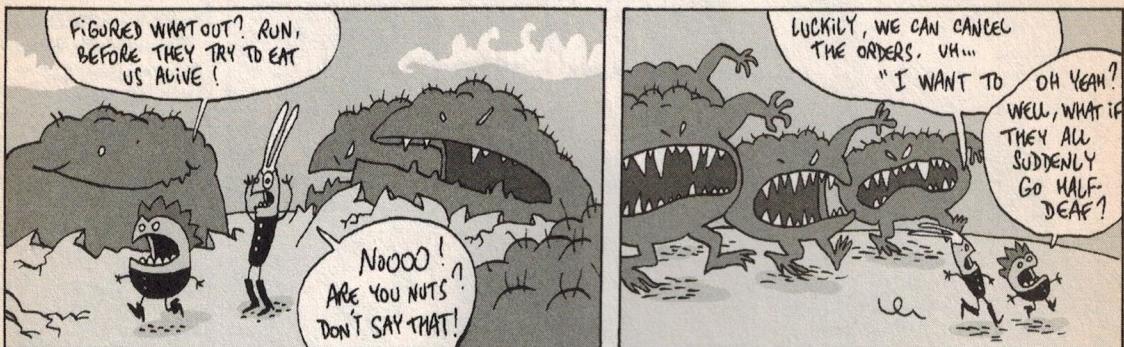


# Kaput & Zösky



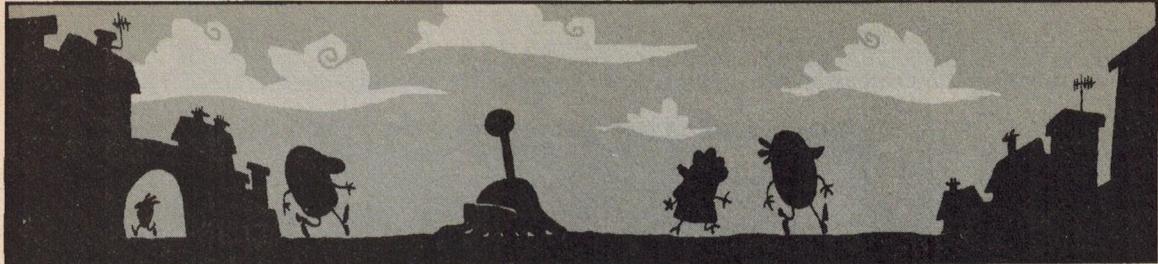






LEWIS TRAVERS

THE FRIENDLY MARTIAN LIVED QUIETLY AMONG THE HUMANS.

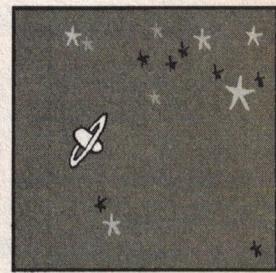
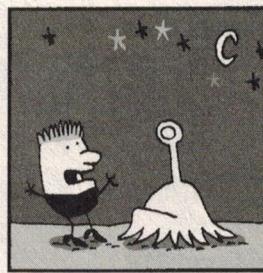
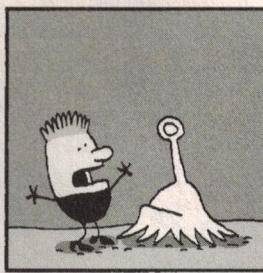
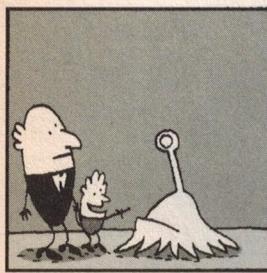


THEY CALLED HIM THE FRIENDLY MARTIAN BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT THE PRESIDENT'S GRANDSON CALLED HIM THE FIRST TIME HE SAW HIM.

THEY ALSO CALLED HIM THAT BECAUSE HIS REAL NAME WAS TOO COMPLICATED.

IT TOOK 12 DAYS TO ACTUALLY PRONOUNCE.

FORTUNATELY (FOR THEM) MARTIANS LIVED ALMOST 380 MILLION YEARS.

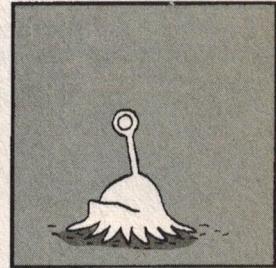
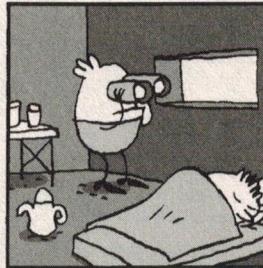
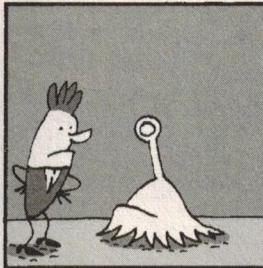
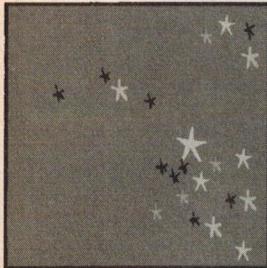


THIS GAVE THEM ENOUGH TIME TO CALL ONE ANOTHER ON THE TELEPHONE IF THEY SO DESIRED.

NOW, THEY KNEW HE WAS A MARTIAN, BUT THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER HE WAS FRIENDLY.

IN ORDER TO MAKE SURE, ROUND-THE-CLOCK SURVEILLANCE FOLLOWED HIS EVERY MOVEMENT.

THIS ENDEAVOR WAS SIMPLIFIED BY THE FACT THAT SINCE HE'D ARRIVED ON EARTH, THE MARTIAN HADN'T MOVED AN INCH.

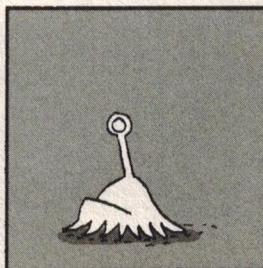


IN A LIFETIME OF SURVEILLANCE, SOME LUCKY GUARDS MANAGED TO WITNESS THE STIRRING OF AN EYEBROW.

EVENTUALLY THEY ALL FORGOT ABOUT THE MARTIAN.

THE HUMAN RACE DIED OUT ABOUT 12,000 YEARS LATER, ON FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup>.

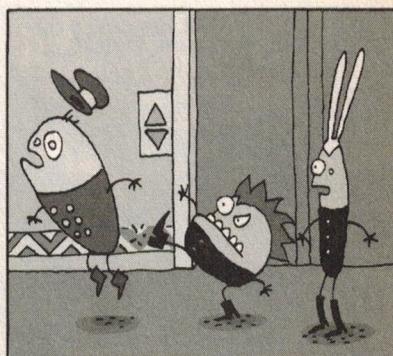
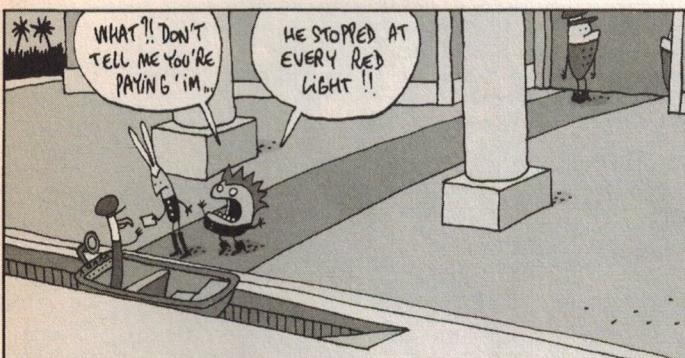
ON THAT DAY, THE MARTIAN FINISHED HIS LUNCH BREAK, BELCHED TWICE AND WENT BACK TO WORK.

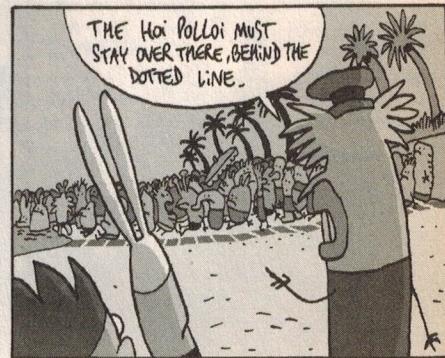
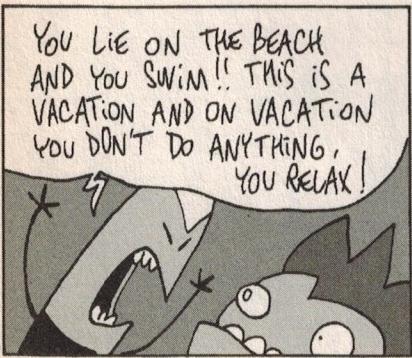
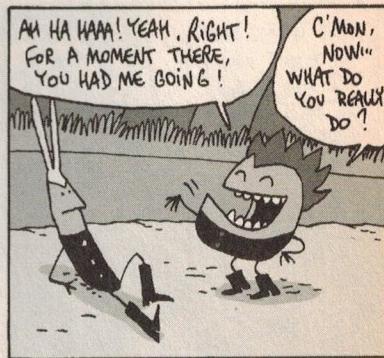
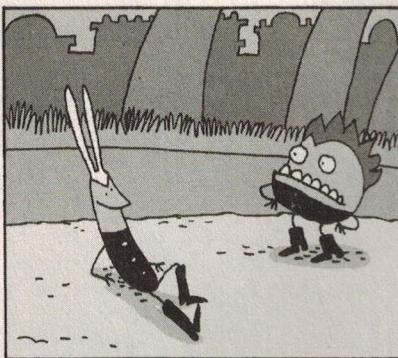
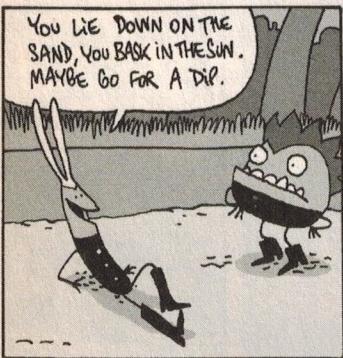


Lewis Trondheim

# Kaput & Zosky





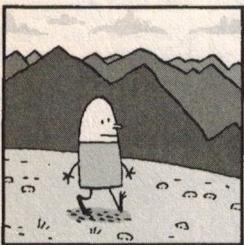




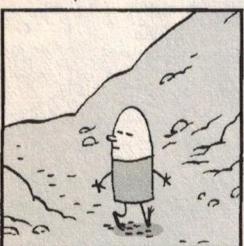
SOME SAY THAT FAMILIARITY KEEPS YOU FROM NOTICING THINGS. HAI-SI WOULD CLAIM THE OPPOSITE.



HAI-SI WAS A MONK AND HE LIVED ALL BY HIMSELF ON THE MOUNTAIN.

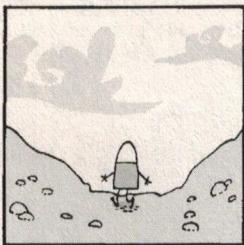


WHEN HE SAW A PEBBLE ON THE HILL HE KNEW HOW MUCH RAIN WOULD CAUSE IT TO ROTATE BY A QUARTER TURN, OR A HALF.

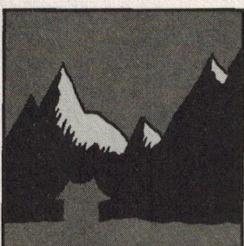


HOW COULD THAT PEBBLE HAVE MOVED?

EVERY DAY, HE WENT FOR A WALK. IT WAS A RITUAL: EVERY DAY THE SAME WAY... EVERY DAY AT THE SAME HOUR.

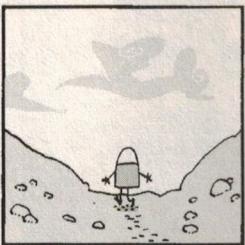


AND IF IT HAD BEEN RAINING THAT NIGHT, THE NEXT MORNING, EVERYTHING WOULD BE EXACTLY AS HAI-SI HAD ANTICIPATED.

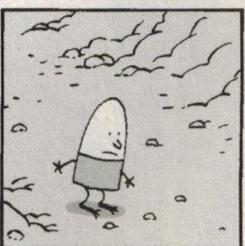


THE ORDER OF THE UNIVERSE HAD BEEN DISTURBED. ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN NOW AND LIFE WOULD NEVER BE THE SAME.

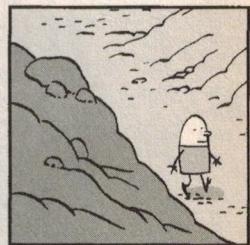
45 YEARS AFTER HIS FIRST WALK, HE KNEW THE WAY BY HEART— BETTER YET, HE ANTICIPATED IT!



THEN, ONE DAY, HAI-SI WAS FLUMMOXED BY A PEBBLE THAT WAS NOT WHERE IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE.



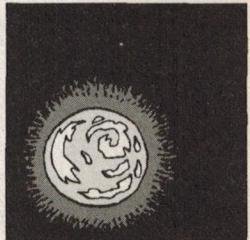
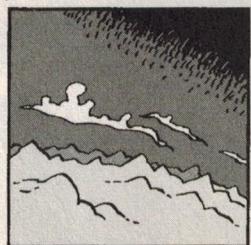
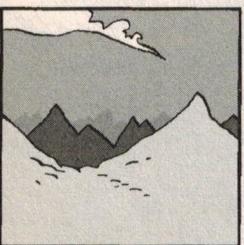
HE KNEW ALL THE PEBBLES AND ALL THE BLADES OF GRASS, ALL THE LUMPS AND ALL THE GOUGES IN THE GROUND.



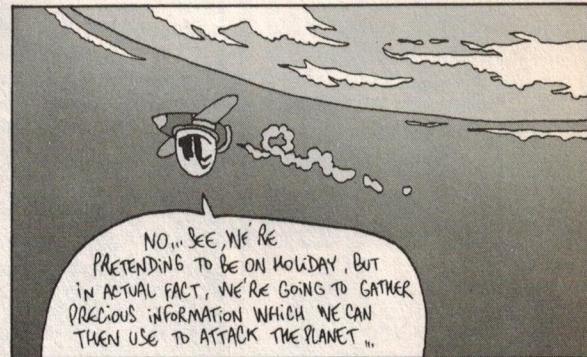
HAI-SI HAD NEVER SEEN OR HEARD AN ANIMAL IN THE REGION, MUCH LESS A HUMAN.

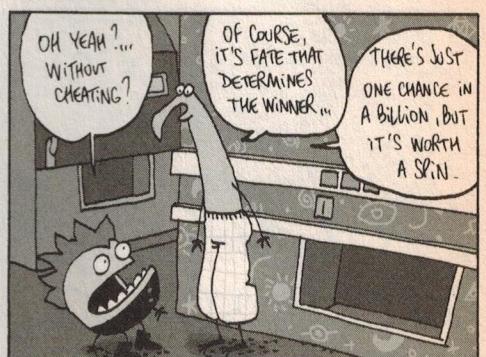
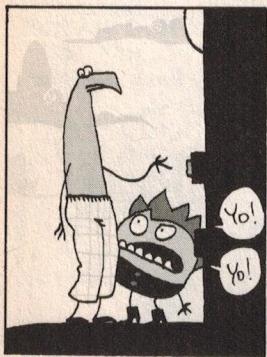
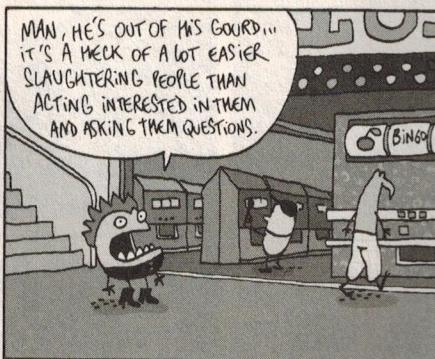


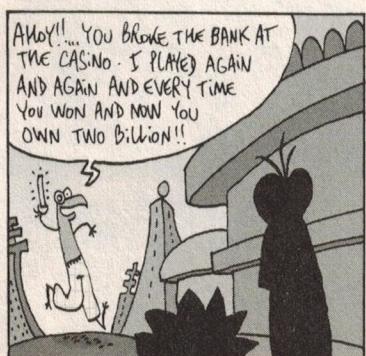
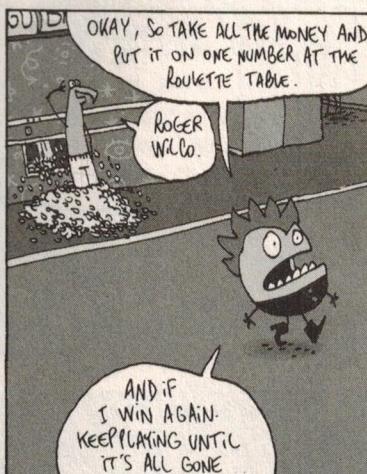
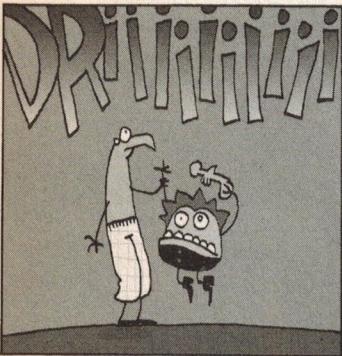
17 MILLION YEARS LATER ANOTHER PEBBLE MOVED IN A PECULIAR MANNER, BUT THIS TIME, NO ONE NOTICED.

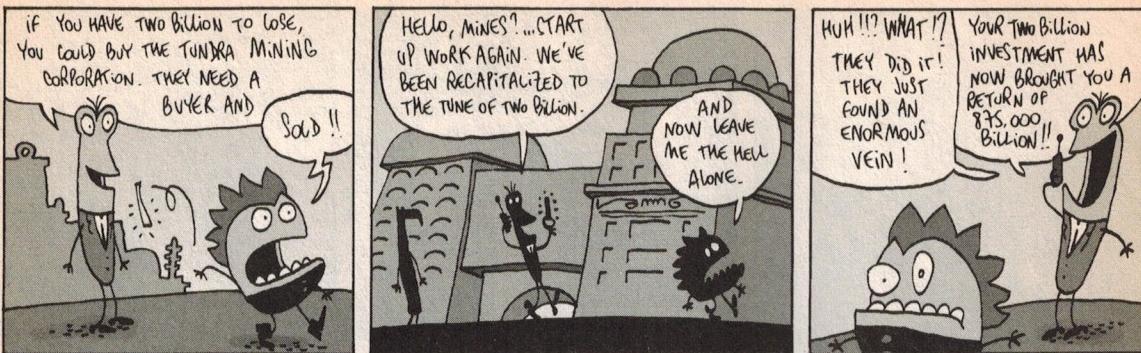


# Kaput & Zösky

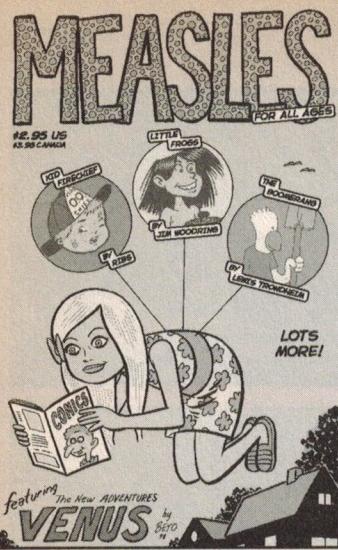








# BACK ISSUES



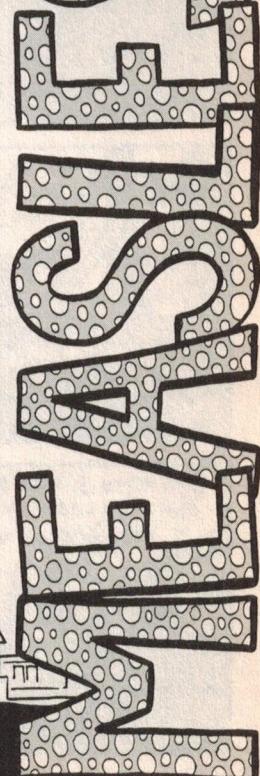
**#1** MEASLES #1: "THE NEW ADVENTURES OF VENUS" BY BETO, "LITTLE FROGS" BY JIM WOODRING, FULL-COLOR "PROFESSOR EGGROD" BY RICK ALTERGOTT, "THE BOOMERANG" BY LEWIS TRONDHEIM, "SPACE ON THE LOOSE!" BY MARIO HERNANDEZ, AND "OLAF OEDWARDS, KID FIRECHIEF" BY STEVEN "RIBS" WEISSMAN!



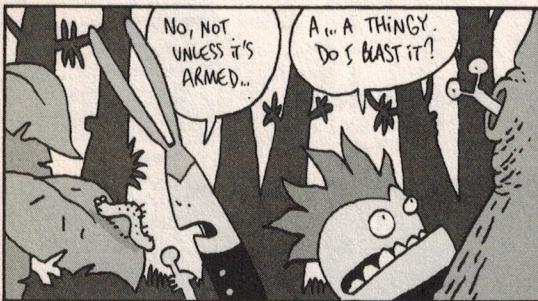
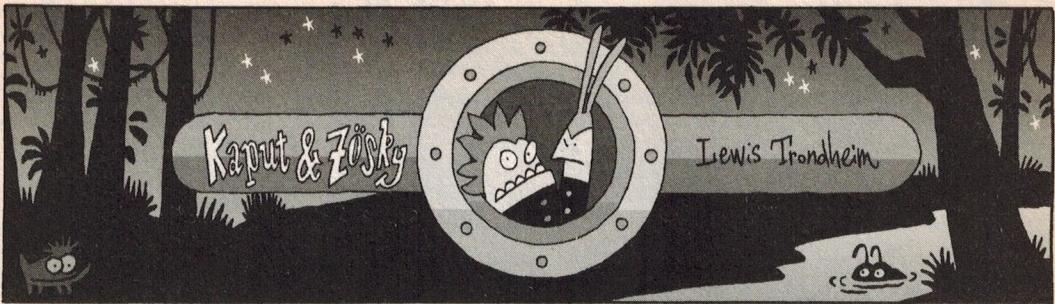
**#2** MEASLES #2: TWO "VENUS" STORIES BY BETO, "LA BLANCA" BY JAIME HERNANDEZ, A BACK COVER PAINTING BY JIM W., "THE LEGEND OF CELESTRA" BY MARIO H., "PROFESSOR EGGROD" BY RICK A., "PUNCTUATION DUCK" BY SAM HENDERSON, AND MORE "KID FIRECHIEF" BY RIBS!

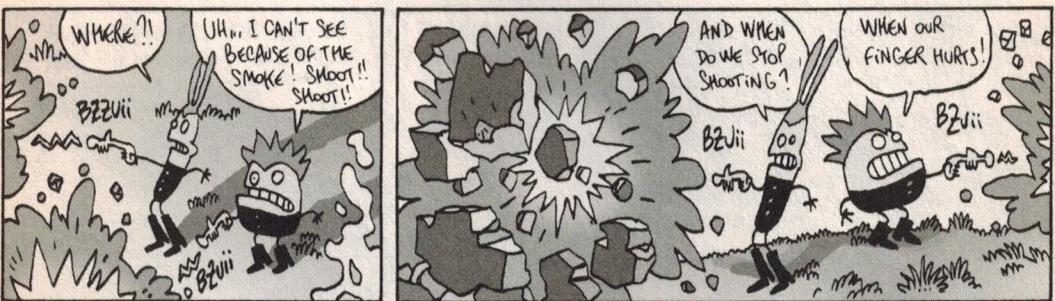
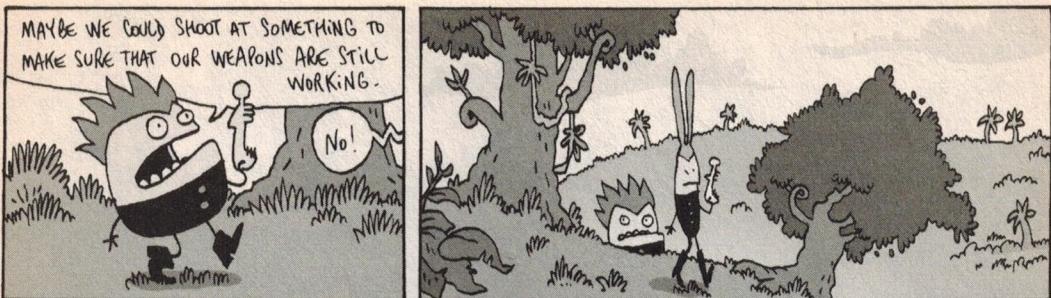


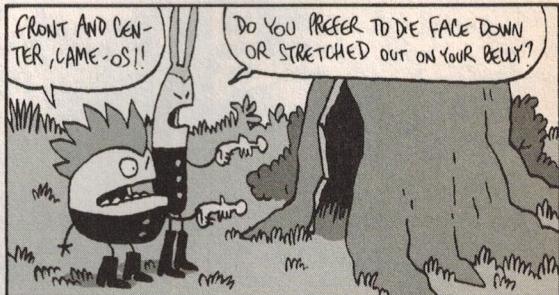
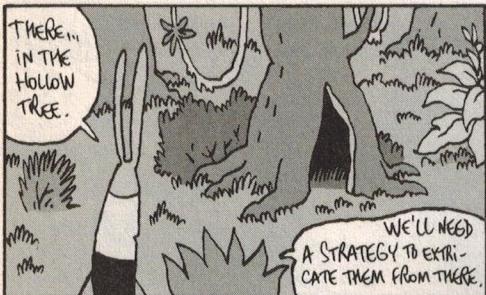
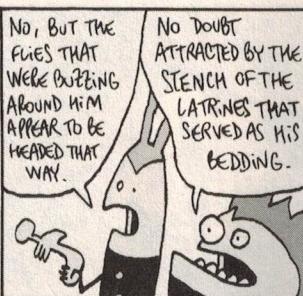
**#3** MEASLES #3: "VENUS" PLAYS SOCCER BY BETO, "LOS SUPER SONICOS" BY JAIME H., "LITTLE STEFFIE" BY ARIEL BORDEAUX, "UNCLE FRANKENSTEIN" BY MARIO H., "YOUNG DOOFUS" BY ALTERGOTT, "THE BEACH" BY LEWIS T., "PUNCTUATION DUCK" BY SAM H., AND "KID FIRECHIEF" BY WEISSMAN!

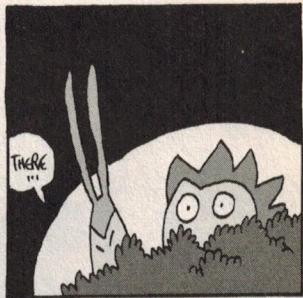


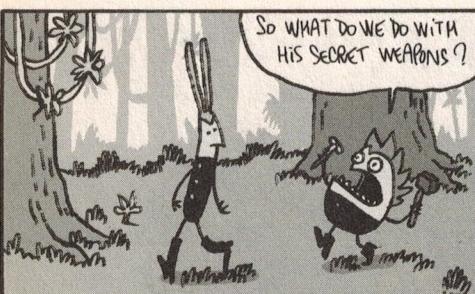
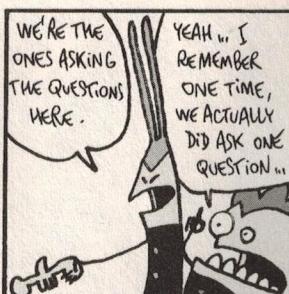
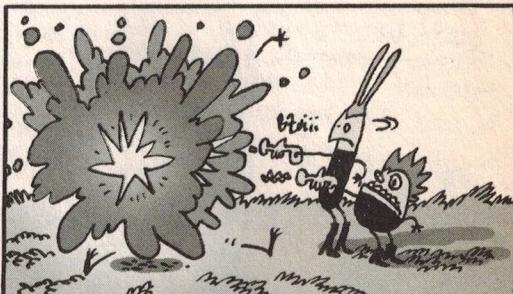
ALL ISSUES ARE \$2.95 PLUS \$1.00 SHIPPING AND HANDLING - OR ALL THREE FOR \$8.85 POSTPAID! SUBSCRIBE TO #5-8 FOR ONLY \$11.50! SEND MONEY (AND LETTERS! WE'D LOVE LETTERS!) TO FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS, 7563 LAKE CITY WAY NE, SEATTLE, WA 98115, OR ORDER BY PHONE AT 1-800-657-1100.





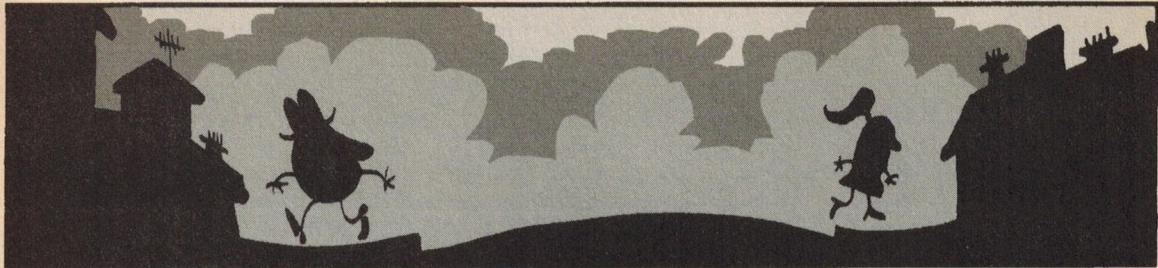




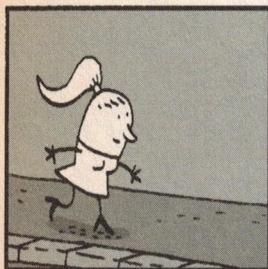


LEWIS TRONDHEIM

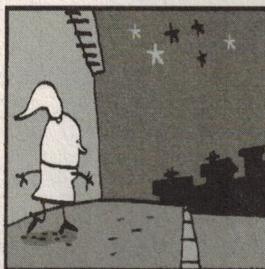
WENCESLAS GAZES AT CHLOE AND SEES HOW PRETTY SHE IS.



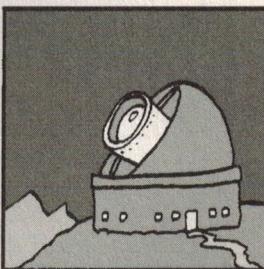
CHLOE GAZES AT THE SIDEWALK BECAUSE SHE'S WATCHING HER STEP.



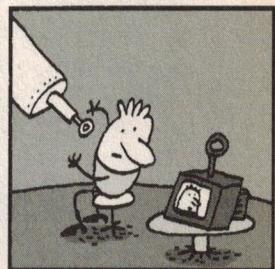
THE SIDEWALK GAZES AT THE STARS AND LACES INTO A DAYDREAM.



THE STARS GAZE AT PAUL AND WONDER WHICH OF THEM HE'S OBSERVING.



PAUL GAZES AT MR. CHARLES ON TV, AS HE'S BEING INTERVIEWED.



MISTER CHARLES GAZES AT ANDRÉ, THE JOURNALIST WHO IS INTERVIEWING HIM, AND WONDERS HOW ANYONE CAN BE SO STUPID.



ANDRÉ GAZES AT MICHELE, HIS ASSISTANT, WHO'S COUNTING DOWN THE REMAINING MINUTES.



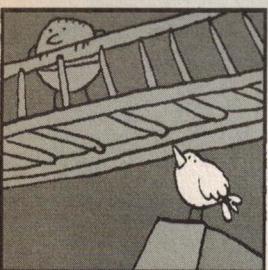
MICHELE GAZES AT A CAT THAT HAS NO BUSINESS BEING THERE, WHILE SHE'S SIGNALING ANDRÉ.



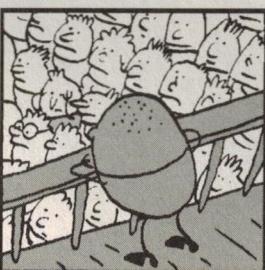
THE CAT GAZES AT THE BIRD IT'S TRACKED INTO THE STUDIO.



THE BIRD GAZES TOWARD THE CYCLING AND SEES A GAFFER WHOSE PRESENCE DISUPPOSES IT FROM HEADING THAT WAY.



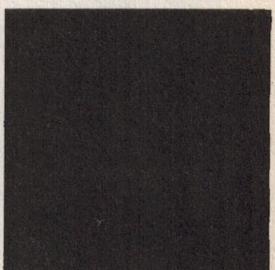
THE GAFFER GAZES AT A MAN IN THE AUDIENCE WHO'S HOLDING HIS HEAD BETWEEN HIS HANDS.

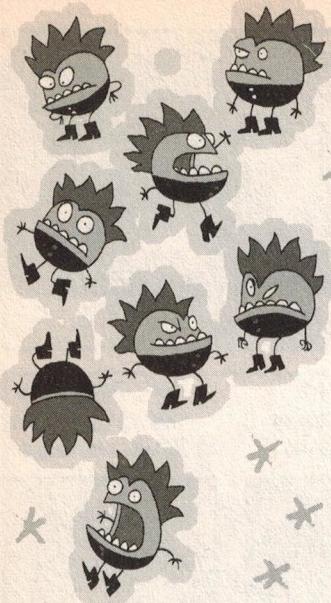


THE MAN IN THE AUDIENCE GAZES INWARD, TRYING TO COME TO GRIPS WITH HIMSELF...



...AND BREAKS THE CHAIN.





(cont. from inside front cover)

#### WHAT ARE THE FUTURE PLANS FOR THE NIMROD?

Issue #4, which will come out early in the year 2,000, is planned to be a special McConey issue, reprinting a fairly obscure McConey story that just so happens to be roughly the right length for an issue of THE NIMROD, and in black-and-white. In a sense, it will be a "crossover" of the two series (and will, one hopes, regenerate a little interest in McConey). Issue #5, which will be released in time for the Con, is still under wraps, but rumor has it it will be about life, the universe, and everything. (No, not a Douglas Adams adaptation, although that would be cool, wouldn't it?)

#### DOES THAT MEAN NO MORE McCONEY BOOKS IN ENGLISH?

For now, probably. Between you and me, Fantagraphics lost its proverbial shirt on the McConey books (especially that second one), and even with the groundswell of support for Lewis's work (other cartoonists especially love 'im), they're still a long

way from breaking even. However, the idea of publishing "Slaloms" in black-and-white next year has been mooted, since that is actually affordable. The book was actually originally done in black-and-white, and it takes place in the snow, so that won't hurt it.

#### HOW COME THE LETTERING VARIES FROM STORY TO STORY IN THE NIMROD?

Lewis is too busy to do all the lettering for his work in other languages, but it so happened that two of the Kaput & Zosky stories were already lettered in English for an animated-series presentation Lewis had prepared, so rather than re-letter them, or have a weird shift in lettering quality like in some old deadline-doomed Marvel comic, he lettered the remainder. The "Feeble Fables," as always, are lettered by the stalwart Jeremy Eaton.

#### ...ANIMATED SERIES?

There's lots of Trondheim animated thingies in preparation, which we'll tell you about on our editorial pages next issue.

#### WILL YOU EVER CONTINUE THE AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL STORY FROM #1?

As French (and now German) Trondheim fans know, this was only the first 1/6 of the "Approximativement" graphic novel. The publishers have decided that it would make more sense to release that as an original graphic novel in one big lump someday, but this will require Kim Thompson to translate another 120 pages in his spare time, so that day could be a few years away.

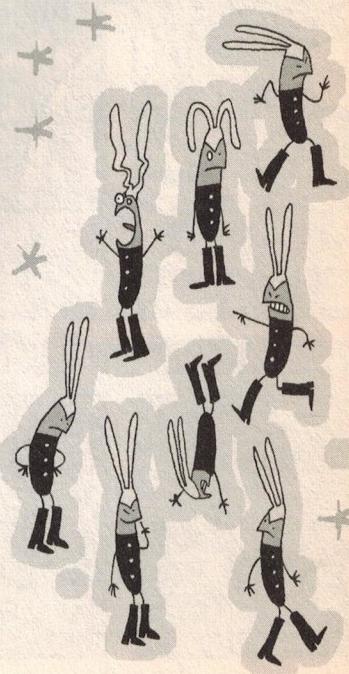
#### REMIND ME AGAIN: WHAT'S AVAILABLE, TRONDHEIM-WISE, FROM FANTAGRAPHICS?

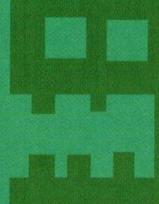
McCONEY VOLUME 1 ("Harum Scarum") and 2 ("The Hoodoodad") are \$11.95 each postpaid. THE NIMROD #1 is sold out, but #2 is available for \$3.95 postpaid, as are MEASLES #1 and #3, each of which features a three-page Lewis-as-a-kid autobiographical story. Oh, we also sell the wordless import LA MOUCHE (\$23.00 postpaid). You can also get THE COMICS JOURNAL #201 with Bart Beatty's long, heavily illustrated article about Lewis, for \$5.95 postpaid — only just \$3.00 if you buy ANY other Trondheim comic or book with it. And there's also one full-color COSMONAUT on the back covers of ZERO ZERO #20, #22, and #24 (\$4.95 each postpaid, or all three for \$9.95) and they sure are pretty.

#### WHY IS IT CALLED "THE NIMROD"?

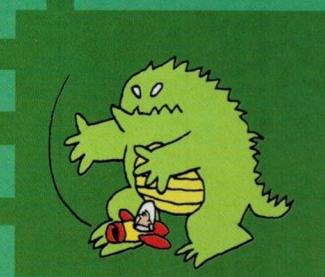
Oops! We're out of room! See you in about six months!

& Zosky



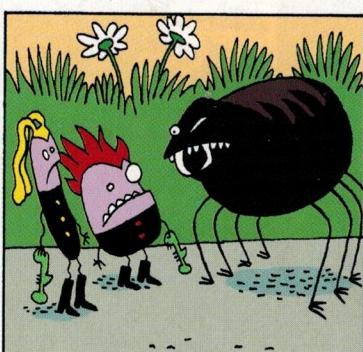
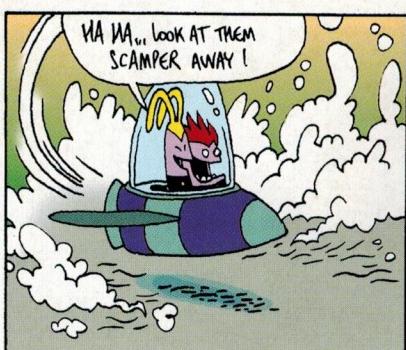
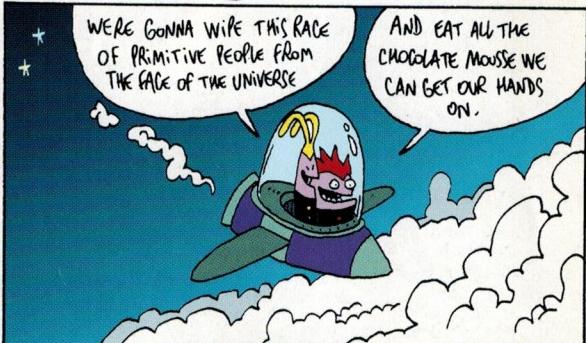


# the Cosmonaut



(Mrs Thompson)

# Kaput & Zösky



LEWIS TRONDHEIM.